

## Regulatory Language

### **Section 27.65. Filleting of Fish on Vessels.**

(a) Definition of Fillet: For the purpose of this section a fillet is the flesh from one side of a fish extending from the head to the tail which has been removed from the body (head, tail and backbone) in a single continuous piece.

(b) Fish That May be Filleted: No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets any fish, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) Kelp bass, sand bass, spotted bass, and ocean whitefish: All fillets shall be a minimum of six and one-half inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(2) Barracuda: Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(3) Lingcod. Lingcod fillets must be a minimum of 16 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for lingcod made under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: [www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/), or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(4) White sea bass: Fillets must be a minimum of 19 inches in length. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of silver skin.

(5) Pacific bonito: No more than 10 fillets of any length may be possessed. All bonito fillets possessed shall be considered a part of the allowable undersized tolerance of five bonito per day less than 24 inches fork length or weighing less than five pounds as provided in Section 28.32 of these regulations. All fillets shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(6) California halibut taken from or possessed aboard a vessel south of Point Arena (Mendocino County): Fillets must be a minimum of 16 and three-quarter inches in length and shall bear the entire skin intact. A fillet from a California halibut (flesh from one entire side of the fish with the entire skin intact) may not be cut in half fillets. However, a fillet may be cut lengthwise in a straight line along the midline of the fillet where the fillet was attached to the vertebra (backbone) of the fish only if the two pieces of a fillet remain joined along their midline for a length of at least two inches at one end of the fillet.

(7) Yellowtail: Fillets must be a minimum of 17 inches in length, except not more than 10 fillets may be less than 17 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin.

(8) Rockfish: Fillets must have the entire skin attached. ~~Brown-skinned rockfish: Fillets shall be a minimum of six and one-half inches in length.~~ Bocaccio fillets must be a minimum of five inches in length. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for rockfish made under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: [www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/), or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(9) California scorpionfish (commonly termed "sculpin"): Fillets must be a minimum of 5 inches. Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 days in advance of a change to the minimum size and minimum fillet size for California scorpionfish made under the authority of subsection 27.82(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: [www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/), or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(10) All other species except those listed in subsection (c) of this section: Each fillet shall bear intact a one-inch square patch of skin. The fillets may be of any size.

(c) Fish That May Not be Filleted: No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets the following fish: cabezon, ~~kelp and rock greenlings, greenlings of the genus Hexagrammos, California halibut north of Point Arena (Mendocino County), and any species of flatfish, other than California halibut, including Pacific and Greenland halibut, tonguefish, sole, turbot, flounder, and sanddab, and salmon, striped bass and sturgeon.~~ salmon, striped bass, sturgeon, and any species of flatfish, except California halibut may be filleted south of Point Arena (Mendocino County).

NOTE: Authority: Sections 200, 202, and 205, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 205, 206, 209, 210, 215, 218, 220, 5508 and 5509, Fish and Game Code.